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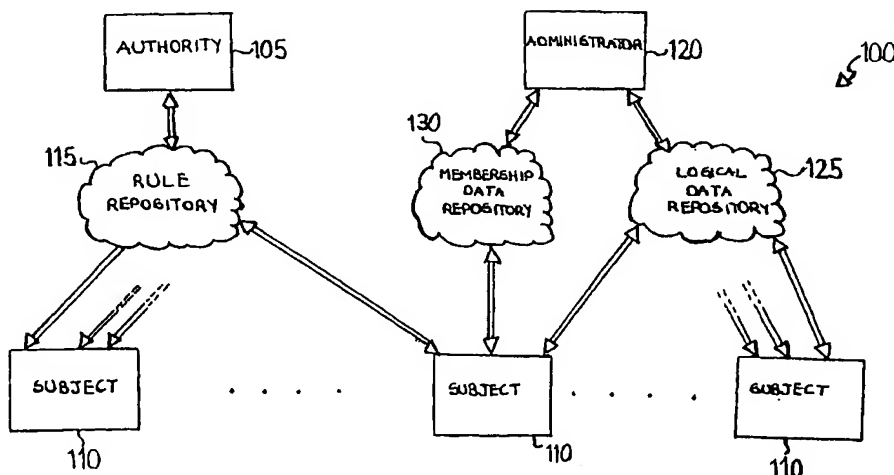
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European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,
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GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AN ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND SYSTEM WITH AUTOMATIC DEPENDENCY RESOLUTION



(57) Abstract: A resource management method (300) and a corresponding system are proposed. In the solution of the invention, an authority publishes (324) multiple rules, each one defining a desired target configuration for a category of subjects (without any information about their dependencies). Each subject retrieves (320-322, 326) the rules corresponding to its category in a random order. The rules are then applied (427-439) on the subject according to a trial-and-fail approach. Particularly, the application of any failed rule is continually repeated (427-448), until all the rules are successfully applied (463) or a deadlock condition is detected (451). In this way, any dependency is automatically resolved on the subject at run time. Moreover, as soon as all the rules have been successfully applied the compliance of the subject to the rules is verified (455-57) again; should the subject be not compliant to one or more rules any longer, an infinite loop condition is detected (466).

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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

- *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

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- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Creation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages
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Relevant to claim No.

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"An N-tier Rule Based XML Architecture for
a Contract Management System" XP002312565
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URL:<http://www.shoulderscorp.com/success/ContractManagement4.pdf>
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1-10

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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int ional Application No

Pc 03/10081

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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